

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 MCT-02 HA-05 /095 W

-----113829 051145Z /44

P R 051030Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1481

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

USMISSION GENEVA

USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 2148

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, GB, DM

SUBJECT: BENIN SITUATION

REF: LIBREVILLE 2137, COTONOU 1099

1. RE BENINESE CHARGES OF LOOTING, PILLAGE AND RAPE BY GABONESE
POLICE

(COTONOU REFTEL) THERE NO DOUBT THAT DURING INITIAL OUTBURST,
THERE WERE MANY CASES OF LOOTING AND PILLAGE AND INDEED, PEOPLE
WERE HURT. SOME POLICE MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED. WE HAVE HEARD NO
RAPE STORIES, BUT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SUCH CASES. WE HAVE NO
EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT LYCEE
D'ESTUAIRE WHERE BENINESE HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLED, NOT EVEN FROM
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RUMOR MILL. HOWEVER, WHILE THERE MAY BE ISOLATED CASES, NATURE
OF CAMP, WHICH WIDE OPEN, IN FULL VIEW OF PUBLIC AND CROWDED,
MILITATES AGAINST POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH CHARGES MAY BE TRUE. ARMY
IN ANY CASE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH GUARDING CAMP. WE THEREFORE
SUGGEST THAT TERM "CONFIRMED" IN COTONOU REFTEL BE
TREATED WITH CONSIDERABLE RESERVE AT LEAST AS IT APPLIES TO LYCEE.

2. LIBREVILLE DAILY, L'UNION, AUG 5, FINALLY CARRIED FULL TEXT OF FONMIN'S BONGO'S MEETING WITH COMS, LESS A FEW REMARKS WHICH WERE NOT INCLUDED IN HIS SCRIPT. APPEAL AT CLOSE FOR HELP WAS INCLUDED: "WHAT WE EXPECT FROM OUR FRIENDS AND PARTICULARLY THE GREAT POWERS, IS IN NO WAY INVOLVEMENT IN THIS AFFAIR WHICH IS MATTER OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY, BUT RATHER HELP IN REPATRIATING AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THESE BENINESE FAMILIES..."

3. FINALLY, L'UNION PRINTED CORRECTION TO AUG 4 STATEMENT THAT CENSUS OF BENINESE IN LIBREVILLE AS OF JULY 28 WAS 10,232.(LIBREVILLE 2137) L'UNION STATED FIGURE GIVEN WAS ACTUALLY FOR ALL OF GABON. CORRECT FIGURE FOR LIBREVILLE IS APPROX 7500. TIENKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPATRIATION, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIBREV02148
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780321-0813
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780894/aaaadauq.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b77c1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIBREVILLE 2137, 78 COTONOU 1099
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1826041
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BENIN SITUATION
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, GB, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b77c1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014